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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4402

May 20, 2011

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The Honorable Craig Fugate Federal Emergency Management Agency 500 C Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate:

I greatly appreciate the critical flood response FEMA has provided to Utah over the years. The assistance to my state after the devastating flooding that occurred in 2005 has minimized damage during subsequent flooding, most recently in December of 2010.

As you may know, Utah has experienced a long, wet winter, which has created an abnormally large snowpack. While the large amount of snow has benefited Utah's economy, through tourism and outdoor recreation, the all but certain negative effects of rapid snowmelt pose a serious threat to life and property. The hot summer temperatures will soon melt the snow in Utah's mountains at a rapid rate. This will cause flooding and we are facing the possibility of several devastating flood events.

It is my hope that this crisis is averted through a slow, drawn-out snowmelt. But if the unfortunate occurs, I hope FEMA and the State of Utah will be able to work together closely to ensure the damage is minimal.

Thank you very much for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Orrin G. Hatch United States Senator

OGH:mjj